

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for allowing Claims 1-10, 21-50, and 61-80.

Claims 11-20 and 51-60 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Hence, Claims 1-80 are pending in the present application.

Each issue raised in the Office Action mailed September 22, 2006 is addressed hereinafter.

I. ISSUES NOT RELATING TO PRIOR ART

Claims 11-20 and 51-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that the computer-readable medium featured in Claims 11-20 and 51-60 is not limited to physical articles or objects which constitute a "manufacture" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 101. Further, the Office Action asserts that Claims 11-20 and 51-60 cover an embodiment of non-functional descriptive material since under the broadest reasonable interpretation the term "one or more sequences of instructions" may cover instructions that are not in executable form (e.g. a word processor document).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the above assertions. However, solely for the purpose of furthering the prosecution of the present application, Claims 11-20 and 51-60 have been amended to clarify that the computer-readable medium featured therein is a "storage" medium and that the one or more sequences of instructions are "executable" instructions. For this reason, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 11-20 and 51-60 are directed to statutory subject matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 101. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 11-20 and 51-60 is respectfully requested.

II. CONCLUSION

The Applicants believe that all issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed. Further, for the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

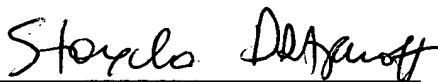
The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

A petition for extension of time, to the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed, is hereby made. If applicable, a law firms check for the petition for extension of time fee is enclosed herewith. If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

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Stoycho D. Draganoff
Reg. No. 56,181

2055 Gateway Place, Suite 550
San Jose, CA 95110-1089
Telephone No.: (408) 414-1080 ext. 208
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076